

DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD (DAB) I

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 2, 2009

6:30 p.m.

Atwater Community Center, 2755 E. 19th, Wichita, Kansas 67214

Members Present

Steve Roberts
Lori Lawrence
Gerald Domotrovic

Janet Wilson
Adam Thomsen

Guests

Jack Brown, 1010 N. Kansas
JoAnn Hartig, 1756 S. Main
Dale & Vicki Churchman, 1357 S.
Broadway
Mary Jo Bond, 4024 Charron
Beverly Domitrovic, 1219 GW Drive
James Roseboro, 4518 Greenbriar

City of Wichita Staff Present

Bill Longnecker, Planning Department
Kurt Schroeder, Office of Central Inspection
Officer Kimble, Beat 47, Wichita Police Department
LaShonda Porter, Neighborhood Assistant

Porter announced that **CM Williams** would be arriving to the meeting late and that 2nd Chair **Steve Roberts** would run the meeting until she arrived. **Porter** also advised that there was not a quorum so the Board would only be able to here item's that did not require a vote until a quorum arrived.

Order of Business

Call to Order

Steve Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and welcomed the guests.

Approval of Minutes

No quorum - **Board** unable to approve.

Approval of Agenda

No quorum - **Board** unable to approve.

Public Agenda

1. Agenda Items

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Care Grant, Jack Brown, KU Medicine provided information on the Care grant received by KU Medicine. He advised that they have been holding focus group to discuss the environmental concerns in the Wichita community – working with over 100 participants. He noted that they also held a booth at the Energy Fair to get feedback from the community. **Brown** noted that they have formed an Environmental Leadership Council to prioritize the concerns of the community.

Brown advised that KU could become eligible for an additional grant for technical and financial resources once priorities had been identified. **Brown** advised that if Neighborhood Associations or community groups would like to host a focus group so that there feedback could be incorporated into the project to contact him directly. **Brown** provided his contact information of 293-1837.

The **Board** thanked **Mr. Brown** for his time and presentation.

Action Taken: Receive and file.

2. **Off Agenda Items**
No items submitted.

Staff Report

3. **Fire Report**

Shift Commander Dan McClure provided the Board with a statistical report identifying the fires throughout the City and District 1. He introduced Crew A from Station #10.

McClure noted the following statistics for District 1:

26 Fires: includes all types of hostile fires including structure fires, automobile fires grass/brush fires, rubbish fires, etc.

552 EMS and Rescue Alarms: any call which is medically related. This is the most common type of alarm the WFD responds to.

148 Service Alarms: calls for service are not medically related or require actual fire but still pose a threat to the safety of the community.

McClure asked if the Board had any additional questions or concerns.

Action Taken: Receive and file.

4. **Police Report**

Officer Carter, Beat 45 advised that they have seen an increase in larcenies and burglaries: 1945 N. Rock (6), Somerset Apartments (3), and Cross Creek Apartments. **Carter** noted that two suspects have been taken into custody and they are still trying to catch one suspect.

Carter advised that graffiti is an issue near 2021 N. Amidon and that they were able to arrest 8 suspects on Friday night. They pulled the individuals over and found the spray paint in the car.

Thomsen asked if the burglaries occurred during the day. **Carter** advised no.

Lawrence wanted to know if the 8 suspects caught for the graffiti were juveniles.

Carter advised yes all except for one.

Officer Weber, Beat 44 advised that a lot work has been accomplished at the Sunflower Plaza Apartments. He noted that crime was down, but cases were up – due to more reports being created by the residents and neighbors. He added that the area is looking better and they will continue to work with the community. The hope is that they will be able to organize Neighborhood Watches to assist with their efforts as well.

Weber noted that Officer Kimble could not make the meeting but want to provide an update on Grove Apartments. He noted that some gang issues have arisen and they are working with management to address.

Weber also advised that on Beat 46 larcenies were up and they had a special project to try and catch the suspect. He advised that they used a bait vehicle, but no one took the bait.

Thomsen wanted to know if he could have more details on the activity at Grove Apartments. **Weber** advised that he would get more information from Officer Kimble.

James Roseboro, 4518 Greenbriar wanted to know what happened to the on-site security they were suppose to have.

Officer Recio, Beat 23 advised that larcenies downtown were down but they still had issues. He also noted that “The Red Flower” at 1050 S. Broadway has been cited for underage patrons and that they are currently monitoring the establishment.

Recio advised that gang graffiti is an issue down south. Five burglaries have been committed at Broadway & Kellogg but the suspect has been caught. **Recio** advised that there was a homicide at the 7-11. Additionally, there was an identified 15-year old runaway from Georgia identified, however, the pimp was arrested for human trafficking.

Officer West, Beat 38 noted that the several suspects have been arrested for the burglaries at Central & Oliver – he noted that many of them were juveniles. **West** advised that they are addressing the traffic issues at Allen Elementary. **West** also advised that there was a shooting at the Petroleum Club at Lincoln & George Washington Blvd. He noted that no gun was found, but three juveniles were taken to JIAC.

Action Taken: Receive and file.

Board Agenda

5. Updates, Issues and Reports

Thomsen advised that construction has begun for the new car wash at 37th & Rock.

Action Taken: Receive and file.

Porter advised that because of the lack of a quorum New Business items would have to be deferred until the March meeting, unless the Council Member chose to have a special meeting the third week of February.

Janzen advised that the bike path item needed to be presented even if action could not be taken as this was an item that was on a fast track and they would at least like to get feedback from the Board members present.

New Business

6. Improvement to the Intersection of 17th/ Farmview and Woodlawn

Paul Gunzelman, Traffic Engineer presented information on the improvements to 17th Street. He noted that they are proposing to install left turn lanes on Woodlawn to both Farmview and Woodlawn. He noted that the area does not meet warrants for a traffic signal, but thinks the project will be an improvement without the signals. He advised that he had not heard from residents on the west side.

Action Taken: No Action Taken by Board.

7. Bike Path – I-135 to K-96

Gary Janzen, Public Works provided background information regarding the project – identifying that the project lies on the border of District VI and District I south and west of Grove Park. It follows I-135 to the north of McAdams (Park on the west side of the highway (District VI) and crosses under the highway on New York Street at about 27th Street (District I). The path turns back south to cross the drainage channel then heads east and north to connect to the K-96 path at Grove Park.

Janzen then introduced **Brent Thomas** the architect on the project to provide more details.

Thomas advised that they are finalizing the alignment but the path will make use of a commercial and industrial area while in District VI and provides access to the east bike paths in accordance with the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) master plan, as well as provides a connection from the east to downtown paths. A spur path and improved intersection ramps along 25th provides access to/from Gordon Parks Academy and the Boys and Girls Club.

Thomas noted that the path is approximately 2.5 miles in length, generally following I-135 and drainage channels. This project will provide missing links between existing paths at McAdams (I-135 path) and Grove Parks (K-96 path). He also noted that they will also consist of off-street pathways with only 3 street crossings at 17th Street, 21st Street and along New York.

Thomas advised that the concept design was underway and that final design is scheduled for completion in July. He noted that the estimated cost is \$2.0 – 2.25 million; however no current funding has been allocated for the project.

Thomas discussed the 17th Street pause point and this point marks the beginning of the project and is just northeast of McAdams Park. He noted this will connect to the existing path that is under the southbound I-135 viaduct and that it will include the following amenities: bench, trash receptacle, and possibly a trail map.

Thomas then described the 19th Street pause point which is highly visible from south bound I-135. He noted that there is very little traffic on 19th Street. He described the amenities for this location to include seating, trash receptacle, potential signage displays and lighting.

Thomas advised that the 21st Street pause point was highly visible from both I-135 and 21st Street. He noted that the amenities for this pause point included benches, trash receptacle, drinking fountain and lighting.

Thomas also noted that there would be a pause point along 25th Street. He advised that right-of-way exists along 25th to extend a 10' spur towards Gordon Parks Academy and will include replacement of 4 curb ramps to meet current City and ADA standards. He also noted that this site would have limited amenities because of the proximity of Grove Park and relative isolation of the location. The amenities for this site will include benches, trash receptacle and lighting.

Thomas showed pictures of the different designs of each the pause points.

Thomsen wanted to know if the pause points behind the residential homes could be moved further away. **Thomas** advised that we could look into it and that they are working with Park and Recreation to finalize the stops.

Wilson wanted to know if there would be trees for shading. **Thomas** advised yes.

JoAnn Hartig, 1756 S. Main wanted to know how they would address cars driving along the trails. **Thomas** advised that they are working with the Park and Recreation department to address this concern. He noted the paths would be strong enough to handle vehicular traffic so that when maintenance and or emergency vehicles had to get on the grounds they can.

James Roseboro, 4518 Greenbriar wanted to know the cost difference from running the trail on the east vs. the west. **Thomas** advised that he did not have the cost information available.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
LaShonda Porter
Neighborhood Assistant